



## FUN CLUB NEWSLETTER JUNE 2006 – DECEMBER 2006

Well, another year has finished and another is just beginning! I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and safe new year. Fun Club will continue the same as last year. I put a proposal into DADHC for some more funding to be able to have more outings, take more high need clients on each outing with the aide of a Support Worker and allow me 2 hours more paid work time per week. We had not heard whether the proposal was successful or not before Biala Support Services Inc. closed for the Christmas and New Year break. The office will be open again on the 8/1/2007. Here is some information about the outings that we did over the last 6 months:

### **24/6/06 Dinner & Dance at the Ballina Bowling & Recreation Club (41 clients attended)**

This is a favourite outing. I am often asked to plan Fun Club outings to the Bowling Club. The staff at the club makes everyone feel welcome, the food is good and there is a big variety of food to choose from and everyone dances, dances, dances to the band after dinner! Even the usually quiet people get up and dance. No one wants to leave at the planned time to go home at 10pm and I literally need to drag people off the dance floor! We will definitely go there again in 2007!

### **15/7/06 Mini Olympics at Biala School (24 clients attended)**

Crossroads were supposed to come to this and the challenge was going to be on for Fun Club to beat the socks off them, but unfortunately I was told they did not get the numbers of people interested to come and join us. Well, we had fun anyway! We had two teams. The red and blue teams. Greg Lowe won best and fairest for his team and Karla McLean for hers. The contests were: gum boot throwing, a dance contest, the most balls to be thrown into a bucket, trivia questions, smelling and feeling objects and saying what they were (now that was FUNNY!) and pin the moustache on Shane (we had a giant picture of Shane Armitage's head and we had to pin a moustache in the right place on his face). Funnily enough, the picture disappeared! We had a BBQ after the games. All said they had fun!

### **19/8/06 Trip to Sea World (23 clients attended)**

The weather was perfect! We broke into 3 groups consisting of the 'very adventurous', the 'not so adventurous' and the 'I'm too afraid to go on the big rides group'. You can guess what group I was with! We spent a fun filled, exhaustive day watching the events, going on the rides and shopping for souvenirs. We then collapsed exhausted onto the buses for the trip home.

### **9/9/06 Dinner & Dancing at the Ballina Bowling & Recreation Club & Overnight stay at Melaleuca House & Biala School (8 Women stayed overnight at Mel House & 1 came just for the dinner & dance – 5 Men stayed overnight camping at Biala School and 3 others came just for the dinner & dance)**

We had a fantastic time! We always have fun at the club and our exuberance continued until we crashed into bed late at night after supper! There was lots of giggling and whispers from the women (and some other noises caused from eating!) for ages before we finally went to sleep! When the guys got back to Biala they had supper and watched a DVD and a little birdie told me that there were some unusual sounds emanating from there too! And I'm not just talking about the snoring!

### **21/10/06 Biala dance at the Ballina Masonic Hall (19 clients attended)**

Another fun get-together. It's good to meet up with friends and dance the night away. It was great to see the people in chairs jiving away together with the help of their friends, family and Support Workers. The smiles on their faces lit up the room. Supper was provided by the Biala Board of Management and Management and what scrumptious home cooked goodies there were and in abundance too! Biala will hold another dance on the third Saturday in May.

### **24/11/06 Karaoke and dance at Biala School (34 clients attended)**

We were going to go to the Lismore Crossroads dance, but I found out at the last minute that they had changed the date of the dance to the 1/12/06 and had not let Fun Club know. Thank you to Meagan's parents for letting me know. Because we were having the December outing on the 2/12/06 we decided to have a sausage sizzle and hold a karaoke and dance night at Biala instead on the 24/11/06. Two outings one day after the other is just too much to organise and too tiring for everyone as well. We also held a meeting to talk about what outings everyone wanted to do in 2007 and 4 clients were nominated to attend meetings as representatives for Fun Club in 2007. The reps are: Leon Weston, Cathy Andrews, Dianna Evans and Tina Harper. I will advise these people of when the meetings will be held and minutes will be provided to all Fun Club members.

### **2/12/06 International Day of People with a Disability – 'Boots, Buckles & Wheels Under the Stars' - at Alstonville Leisure & Entertainment Centre (29 clients attended)**

What a night! They had a sausage sizzle & drinks, we saw performances by Jimmy Willing & Davis Ramsey, Christine Scheibel, Dylan Cartledge, Allan Gillespie, Lennox Head Boot Scooters, Scott Kenny did a wheelchair dance, Majic – Country Duo, Sara Storer and we saw the premiere of 'GUNS OF GRAVE ROCK' by BDCSA clients which was brilliant. The cast were: Troy Beckinsale, Adam Dale, Samantha Farquahar, Stacy Foster, Tina Harper, Sue Hurford, Saffron Shand, Mathew Slade, Rachel Moffet, Kristy O'Meara, Bill Parker, Corey Stewart, Sakti Urry, Kandy, Kristy, Robyn, George, Amy, Renee & Pam. Congratulations guys! The film / play was excellent! AND FUNNY!!!

**Well guys, thank you for another fun year. I am looking forward to seeing you all in 2007! Can't wait for our first outing – our Richmond River Cruise that we do every year in January! Till next time.....**

**Yours Truly, Rhonda Honda**